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RHODESIAN FLUE-CURED EXPORTS RISE THIS YEAR

Exports of flue-cured tobacco from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland totaled 129.9 million pounds in the first 9 months of 1960. This was nearly 11 percent larger than the 117.3 million pounds exported in January-September 1959.

Gains were recorded to most major destinations this year, with the exception of Australia, which took slightly less Rhodesian tobacco than in January-September 1959. Major markets during January-September 1960 included the United Kingdom, West Germany, Australia, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Malaya.

TOBACCO, FLUE-CURED: Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, exports by country of destination, January-September 1959 and 1960

Destination	January-September		Destination	January-September	
	1959	1960		1959	1960
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>		<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United Kingdom.....	70,079	79,803	Union of		
Germany, West.....	11,562	14,184	South Africa.....	2,711	2,546
Australia.....	10,582	10,187	Hong Kong.....	2,444	1,488
Netherlands.....	7,051	6,511	Denmark.....	1,248	1,341
Belgium.....	3,177	4,024	Norway.....	565	772
Malaya.....	1,544	2,649	Other.....	6,288	6,416
			Total.....	117,251	129,921

BRAZIL TO HARVEST MORE CIGARETTE LEAF IN 1961

Early-season forecasts place Brazilian cigarette tobaccos for harvest in early 1961 at about 175 million pounds, up about 20 percent from the revised figure of 145 million for 1960. Flue-cured is expected to account for most of the increase.

Brazilian tobacco producers are growing more cigarette leaf to meet the requirements of domestic cigarette manufacturers. Cigarette output in Brazil totaled 49 billion pieces in 1957, but rose to an estimated 60 billion in 1960. Some manufacturers forecast an output as high as 70 billion in 1961.

U. K. CIGARETTE IMPORTS UP SHARPLY

The United Kingdom's imports of cigarettes have risen sharply following removal of restrictions from the "dollar" area in early 1960.

Imports totaled 618,000 pounds in January-September 1960, with more than half of U.S. origin. For January-September 1959, cigarette imports amounted to 307,000 pounds, with the United States supplying 72,000. Other major sources of cigarette imports include Ireland, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and Canada.

NEW ZEALAND JOINS INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT

In December 1960, New Zealand joined the International Sugar Agreement. This, however, will probably not alter its traditional sources of supply. From 65 to 75 percent of New Zealand's yearly imports of 130,000 short tons of sugar come from Australia, and the remainder from Fiji.

Under the Agreement, 2,000 votes are assigned to ISA members, 1,000 to exporters, and 1,000 to importers. Although New Zealand will have only 14 votes, officials count on membership to give the government access to the International Sugar Council, and a voice in its deliberations.

THAILAND PLANS LAND SURVEY

Thailand plans to survey its land resources this year as part of a 6-year program for economic development. Classifications will be made on lands for (1) national forests and parks, (2) crops, (3) livestock, (4) minerals, and (5) irrigation projects. The survey will also include water resources and waterways. Training of officials for the survey has begun.

U. K. INTERESTED IN FROZEN ORANGE JUICE

Market surveys are testing consumer acceptance of frozen orange juice concentrates in the United Kingdom. Final results are expected to indicate a substantial market. The firm conducting these surveys has applied for increased dollar allocations of import licenses.

NEW ZEALAND SHIPPING MEAT TO U.S. THIS MONTH

Four ships will leave New Zealand in January with 10,976,000 pounds of meat for the United States. Their schedules are as follows:

Ship	Sailing date	Destination	Quantity (1,000 pounds)
Monterey	January 10	West Coast	336
Argentinean Reefer	do. 19	do.	1,120
Mariposa	do. 28	do.	560
Patagonia Star	do. 24	East Coast	8,960

URUGUAY LOWERS TAX
ON WOOL EXPORTS

To encourage wool exports, Uruguay's National Council of Government has lowered the export retention rate from 19 to 12 cents per pound for greasy wool.

The export retention tax was first initiated on December 22, 1959, when the aforos on wool were abolished. The December 1959 decree established a tax rate on greasy wool (58-60's fineness) ranging from 25 to 50 percent of its value. The tax rate is fixed on the volume of wool, considering the national and international value of wool and the value of the national currency. The receipts generated by this tax will be used to promote Uruguayan agriculture.

The initial tax rate was 22 cents per pound, grease basis. On August 26, 1960, in view of the reduced demand for wool and in response to demands made by various farmer organizations, the National Council of Government reduced the rate to 19 cents per pound. This tax rate was again lowered on November 29, 1960, to 12 cents per pound. This new rate represents 25 percent of the wool value and is the lowest permitted by law.

So far this season, only a small volume of the new clip has been sold. This reluctance to sell is due primarily to low prices and to speculation that the retention rate would be reduced.

About 210 million pounds of wool are now on hand and available for export. Total wool exports (including tops) in 1959-60 were 106 million pounds, grease basis, compared with 181 million the previous season.

DANISH HOG SLAUGHTER SETS
RECORD; BACON EXPORTS UP

Hog slaughter in Denmark established a new record in 1960, and a further increase is likely this year. The hog kill exceeded 9 million head, about 500,000 more than in 1959.

Denmark's meat export earnings continued satisfactory, with large quantities shipped at relatively good prices. Total bacon shipments amounted to about 683 million pounds, of which 529 million were shipped to the United Kingdom. Danish bacon shipments in 1960 totaled 77 million pounds more than those of a year earlier. Shipments in November 1960 were interrupted by a strike in several major bacon factories.

In mid-November 6.6 million hogs were on farms in Denmark, slightly more than a year earlier. The number of bred sows, however, was up 8 percent. (Cont'd)

At year-end Danish grade A bacon (cured hog sides) was selling at wholesale in London for about 40 cents a pound, a premium of nearly 2 cents over the best bacon from other European countries. At the same time, dressed hog sides were available at Chicago for 31 cents a pound.

During 1960, 22 Danish canning factories established a joint company for the production and sale of luncheon meat to the United Kingdom. Attempts will be made to increase sales to this market by the use of a single brand name, unified promotion, and lower shipping and selling costs. Denmark shipped 71.2 million pounds of this product to the United Kingdom in 1959, which accounted for 45 percent of its total imports. Denmark does not ship much luncheon meat to the United States.

INDIA RELEASES SUGAR FOR EXPORT

On September 17, 1960, India announced it would release 50,000 long tons of sugar for export. Although prospects for actual exports are uncertain owing to high prices of Indian sugar, this decision reflects the improved sugar supply position in India following an alltime record production of 2.4 million tons of white sugar refined directly from cane during November 1959-October 1960. An excise duty concession and the price support program, which contributed to the greater production this year, are to continue next season.

KENAF PRODUCTION RISING IN GUATEMALA

About 500 acres of kenaf were grown in Guatemala in 1960 by the 4 major producers, and negligible quantities by small growers just getting started. Plans for 1961 include the planting of about 2,500 acres by present growers, and possibly 1,500 acres by new growers if arrangements can be made.

Average yield from the 1960 crop was estimated at just under 4,000 pounds of dry, ribboned fiber, but a shortage of machines has hampered harvesting to the extent of possibly 750,000 pounds.

A factory, officially opened July 21, 1960, used all the kenaf from the 1959 crop, stocks from prior years, and some imported jute. In mid-October, the factory began using the 1960 crop. Output is 100,000 bags a month, using about 300,000 pounds of fiber. The factory requirements of 9,000,000 pounds forecast for 1961 probably can be met from the planned acreage if enough machines can be obtained for the harvest.

COLOMBIA REDUCES EXPORT TAX

Effective January 1, 1961, Colombia reduced its export tax on coffee, bananas, and rawhide from 15 to 9 percent. The reduction is to compensate coffee exporters for the decline in export prices of coffee. The tax is payable in foreign exchange at the time export proceeds are surrendered to the Banco de la Republica.

KOREA CHANGES OFFICIAL
EXCHANGE RATE

Effective January 1, 1961, Korea changed its official rate of exchange from 650 to 1,000 hwan per U.S. dollar. The rate applies to exports, government imports, U.S. offshore procurement, and many nonmerchandise transactions, including the conversion of Military Payment Certificates and other dollar instruments by U.S. personnel stationed in Korea.

The new rate is also expected to apply to certain specified imports, but the applicable detailed regulations have not yet been issued. The exchange auction system, which previously applied to certain aid-financed imports and to private imports financed with exchange supplied by the government, will presumably be continued in modified form.

1960 GREEK RAISIN
EXPORTS MOVE SLOWLY

Exports from the 1960 Greek raisin pack (currently estimated at 28,500 short tons) have been slow. Only about 10,600 tons of raisins were shipped through November 15, 1960, compared with about 24,800 tons from the 69,000-ton 1959 pack for the corresponding period. The weak export market for Greek raisins is attributed to the relatively high prices asked by the Greeks compared with the early-season prices of Turkey and California.

In the latter part of December, raisin export prices, f.o.b. Greece, by grades were quoted as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Dollars per short ton</u>
No. 0	318-322
No. 1	308-313
No. 2	290
No. 4, bleached	281

These prices are reported to be \$36 to \$45 per short ton higher than the corresponding prices a year earlier, but \$5 to \$9 lower than the opening prices of late August 1960. The grower prices at present are slightly under the security price level of 10.6 cents per pound for No. 4 grade, natural basis.

The quality of this year's crop is reportedly about average. In the latter part of December, the KSOS indicated the composition of the raisin pack by grade, percentagewise, to be as follows: Grade No. 0, 10 percent; Grade No. 1, 20 percent; Grade No. 2, 20 percent; and Grade No. 4, 50 percent.

Export of grade No. 4 unbleached raisins is not allowed this year.

(Cont'd on next page)

Collection of raisins by the KSOS this season was terminated on December 15 after about 5,500 tons were purchased. In general, the Greek growers were apparently not willing to sell to KSOS at the security prices, even though the free market was not offering higher prices.

Practically all Greek raisins are now exported in fiber boxes, and the volume exported in consumer packs is increasing. Besides the packaging machine that KSOS operated for the first time in 1959-60, a second machine, operated by a group of exporters, was used this season. These machines have a capacity of about 3,000 bags per hour.

During 1959-60, Greece exported 56,066 short tons of raisins; the U.S.S.R. was the largest buyer, with purchases of 18,626 tons, followed closely by West Germany with purchases of 18,279 tons. However, through October 31, 1960, Greece had not exported raisins to the U.S.S.R., and shipments to other Soviet Bloc countries were considerably reduced. Greek raisin shipments to West Germany during this period were also down.

RAISINS: Greece, exports, by country of destination, entire 1959-60 marketing year and September 1 through October 31, 1959, and September 1 through October 31, 1960

Destination	1959-60	Sept. 1- Oct. 31, 1959	Sept. 1- Oct. 31, 1960
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Austria.....	2,306	834	370
Finland.....	1,613	338	252
France.....	2,000	273	52
Germany, West.....	18,278	7,977	3,856
Italy.....	917	306	108
Japan.....	3,395	1,229	527
Netherlands.....	529	110	71
Norway.....	303	118	6
Switzerland.....	301	33	26
United Kingdom.....	2,154	206	91
Yugoslavia.....	1,180	581	33
Other.....	1,090	297	212
Total.....	34,066	12,302	5,604
Soviet Bloc:			
Bulgaria.....	165	---	---
Czechoslovakia.....	427	259	321
Germany, East.....	1,636	---	---
Hungary.....	---	---	224
Poland.....	1,146	560	7
Rumania.....	---	335	12
U.S.S.R.....	18,626	1,433	---
Total.....	22,000	2,587	564
Grand total.....	56,066	14,889	6,168

1960 GREEK DRIED FIG PACK SLIGHTLY
SMALLER; FIG PASTE EXPORTED TO U.S.

The 1960 Greek dried fig pack is estimated at 27,000 short tons, down slightly from last year's 28,000-ton pack. Average 1953-57 production was 29,000 tons.

Export of Greek dried figs this season through November 19 totaled 13,226 tons against 14,162 tons exported through November 15 a year earlier. Greek dried fig exports for 1960-61 are expected to equal those of 1959-60, when 16,242 tons were exported.

The Fig Growers Cooperative Organization, SYKIKI, purchased about 5,500 tons of dried figs this season to prevent a continuing price decline. The purchase price was reported as follows in cents per pound: Grade A, 4.7 cents; Grade B, 4.4 cents; and Grade C, 4.1 cents.

For the first time, fig paste was exported from Greece. According to Greek sources, through mid-December approximately 193 tons were exported to the United States at 8-1/8 cents per pound, c. & f. New York. SYKIKI--the sole exporter of fig paste--said that this price does not leave any profit. Additional shipments are expected later in the season for a total fig paste export of about 550 tons. To satisfy the U. S. industry's preference in fig paste packaging, SYKIKI imported 20,000 fifty-pound fiber boxes and wax paper for lining from the United States.

The volume of string figs that Greece exported to the United States through mid-November this season totaled 1,599 tons against 1,231 tons for the corresponding period last season. Average price was reported at about 11.5 cents per pound c. & f. New York; opening prices were higher, about 12.5 cents, but dropped to as low as 11.0 cents.

Export prices of dried figs packed in layers opened at about 9.5 cents per pound f.o.b. Greece but declined to as low as 7.9 to 8.2 cents per pound in the latter part of December. Even at these low prices, interest of foreign buyers was reported limited. Dried fig stocks were then estimated between 3,800 and 4,400 tons.

Discards from this year's crop are estimated at about 5,500 tons, which, as usual, will be utilized by the alcohol distillation industries.

A large fumigation plant is being built at the main fig exporting port of Kalamata. This plant--with a daily capacity of 450-500 tons--is expected to be completed and in operation for the 1961-62 season. Fumigation will be either under normal pressure or reduced atmospheric pressure. With atmospheric pressure, fumigating time can be reduced to 2-2½ hours, compared with 12 hours under normal pressure.

GERMANY PLANS TO REDUCE WHEAT AND FEED GRAIN IMPORTS

On November 29, 1960, the Cabinet of West Germany announced the country's grain import plan for 1960-61 (July-June). It provides for a substantial reduction in wheat imports and a drastic reduction in feed grain imports.

Total wheat supplies in West Germany in 1959-60 amounted to 6,921,000 metric tons. Distribution of these supplies is estimated as follows: domestic utilization, 4,091,000 tons (3,696,000 for food, 315,000 for feed, and 80,000 for industrial use and marketing losses); 718,000 tons for export; and 2,112,000 tons for June 30, 1960 carryover.

For wheat, the current season's import requirements were fixed at 2,035,000 metric tons, including 1,355,000 tons for domestic use, 680,000 tons for the production of flour for export, and 280,000 tons for stock increase. During 1959-60, wheat imports totaled 2,200,000 tons grain equivalent.

West Germany's Imports of bread and coarse grains and products in 1959-60

Product	Imported from						
	EEC Area	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Other countries	Total grain equivalent
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Wheat.....	480,002	303,682	752,038	214,126	93,188	341,402	2,184,438
Wheat products..	8,140	11,219	---	---	---	74	19,433
Rye.....	10,834	16,814	---	---	---	739	28,387
Rye products..	30	4	---	---	---	---	34
Barley.....	189,180	386,508	67,639	230,399	288,309	356,977	1,519,012
Oats.....	19,808	221,004	34,316	73,956	144,297	23,714	517,095
Corn.....	768	531,474	147	201,420	---	225,926	959,735
Milo and millet	1,060	60,594	131	11,198	2,817	4,986	80,786
Feed grain : meals....	148,615	1,594	---	---	---	1	150,210
Pasta goods: and corn :							
starch....	3,646	---	---	---	---	2,470	6,116
Malt.....	49,530	---	---	---	---	40,499	90,029

Federal Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Forestry.

The 1960-61 import requirements for coarse grains is fixed at 1,690,000 metric tons, including 900,000 tons for feed, 490,000 tons for industrial use, and 300,000 tons of brewing barley. During 1959-60, Germany's coarse grain imports totaled 3,100,000 metric tons grain equivalent.

The drastic reduction in feed grain imports is attributed to the large domestic crop in 1960 and the relatively high proportion of damaged grain in the 1960 wheat and rye crop. A recent government regulation requires importers of feed corn, barley, and brewing barley to couple their 1960-61 imports with purchases from Federal Import and Storage Agency stocks in the following proportions before an import license will be issued.

<u>Imported</u>	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Ratios</u>
Corn and grain sorghums	Feed wheat	1:1
Feed barley	Feed barley	2:1
Brewing barley	Brewing barley	1:1

In contrast with previous years, the government did not indicate the countries from which it plans to obtain its 1960-61 import requirements. However, some indication of the possible impact on supplying nations of the reduced 1960-61 import requirements is afforded by figures showing 1959-60 imports by countries of origin.

FINLAND REDUCES GRAIN IMPORTS FROM U.S.S.R.

Under a trade agreement recently signed in Moscow, Finland will import 25,000 metric tons less grain from the U.S.S.R. in calendar year 1961 than was provided for in the 1960 agreement. The 1961 import quotas, with the corresponding 1960 figures shown in parentheses are: wheat, 145,000 tons (140,000); rye, 25,000 tons (50,000); corn, 30,000 tons (35,000); total, 200,000 tons (225,000).

From 1959 to 1960, Finland's scheduled total imports of Russian grain declined 140,000 metric tons. The agreement for calendar year 1959 specified 235,000 tons of wheat, 100,000 tons of rye, and 30,000 tons of corn, for a total of 365,000 tons. The declines in both 1960 and 1961 are in part a result of increasing grain production in Finland. Little corn is grown in that country.

U.S. RICE EXPORTS LOWER IN FIRST QUARTER

U.S. rice exports in the August-October quarter of the 1960-61 marketing year, at 3,465,000 cwt. (100 pounds), were 31 percent below exports in the first quarter of the previous year. A sharp drop in shipments to Cuba--from 1,044,000 to 118,000 cwt.--accounted for much of the decline.

Principal destinations in the first quarter were India, the Netherlands, the Union of South Africa, Ghana, and West Germany. Rice shipped under Public Law 480, Section 416 (donations), went to many countries and comprised about 13 percent of total exports.

RICE 1/: United States exports 2/ to specified countries, October 1960,
with comparisons

Country of destination	August-July:	August-October		October	
	1959-60	1959	1960	1959	1960
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Western Hemisphere:					
Canada	283	48	58	20	27
Bahamas	64	13	21	2	9
British Honduras	52	12	10	0	0
Cuba	3,101	1,044	118	475	44
El Salvador	80	30	3/	0	0
Mexico	278	3	58	3/	33
Netherland Antilles	82	15	25	5	9
Argentina	63	52	0	50	0
Chile	205	35	56	5	33
Other countries	4/ 1,084	23	78	3	31
Total	5,292	1,275	424	560	186
Europe:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	341	165	51	37	22
Greece	64	7	2	3	1
Germany, West	678	157	131	118	85
Netherlands	575	148	170	94	57
Poland	83	0	7	0	0
Portugal	50	0	25	0	0
Spain	75	0	35	0	0
Sweden	58	24	36	10	17
Switzerland	39	2	19	1	9
United Kingdom	505	116	97	53	42
Yugoslavia	122	0	27	0	0
Other countries	120	18	15	6	5
Total	2,710	637	615	322	238
Asia:					
Ceylon	904	686	0	412	0
Hong Kong	234	0	57	0	0
India	4,652	0	1,357	0	1,084
Indonesia	3,357	1,344	14	500	0
Iraq	361	138	20	126	2
Israel	111	21	52	6	3/
Nansel & Nanpo Islands ..	394	2	9	1	1
Pakistan	174	94	34	0	34
Philippine Republic	65	0	39	0	0
Saudi Arabia	89	18	23	9	9
Other Arabia	142	29	30	19	14
Other countries	5/ 426	5	260	2	133
Total	10,909	2,337	1,895	1,075	1,277
Africa:					
Egypt	447	447	8	0	8
French West Africa	58	44	18	11	6
Ghana	177	13	137	9	61
Liberia	432	179	118	24	41
Nigeria	28	5	7	1	4
Union of South Africa ..	307	49	161	28	81
Other countries	146	3/	68	0	4
Total	1,595	737	517	73	205
Oceania	64	9	14	3/	3
Other	7	3	0	1	0
World total	20,577	4,998	3,465	2,031	1,909

1/ Includes small quantity of rough rice in milled equivalent. 2/ Includes Section 416 donations. 3/ Less than 500 cwt. 4/ Includes 734,000 cwt. to Peru and 163,000 to Venezuela. 5/ Includes 183,000 cwt. to Taiwan.

BURMA'S NEW RICE CROP SELLING WELL

By mid-December, Burma had sold 1,150,000 long tons of its 1960-61 rice crop. Commitments were (1,000 tons): Communist China, 350; Pakistan, 300; India, 200; Indonesia, 250; and North Korea, 50.

Sales to India were at £ 33 per ton (\$4.13 per 100 pounds) for standard grade Ngasein, Small Mills Special, and £ 33/12 (\$4.21) for Ngasein full boiled.

CAMBODIA RELEASES RICE FOR EXPORT

On November 30, 1960, Cambodia announced the release of 100,000 metric tons of rice for export--50,000 tons of white rice and 50,000 tons of 50-percent broken. The rice is available for export until April 30, 1961.

The allocation is consistent with reports of a good rice harvest in 1960-61. New-crop rice began to be exported in December. Shipments will probably continue relatively high during 1961.

U.S. EXPORTS OF SOYBEANS CONTINUE TO CLIMB; EDIBLE OILS AND OILSEED MEALS DOWN

U.S. exports of soybeans and soybean oil during October-November 1960 increased sharply over the first 2 months of the previous marketing year. In contrast, exports of cottonseed oil and oilseed cakes and meals were far short of the quantities exported a year earlier.

An alltime record monthly volume of 22.7 million bushels of soybeans moved to foreign markets in November. Thus, October-November exports totaled 36.7 million bushels, 13 percent more than in the first 2 months of the 1959-60 marketing year. Over 50 percent of the total went to Western Europe, 5 percent more than in the comparable months of 1959, reflecting reduced exports of Chinese soybeans (see article on soybean shipments through the Suez Canal, on Page 17). Exports to Japan in October-November, at 6.7 million bushels, represented almost one-fifth of the total but were almost 2 million bushels less than in the comparable months a year earlier.

Shipments of edible oils, at 183.3 million pounds, were down 10 percent from 1959 with a 40-percent decline in cottonseed oil far exceeding the 27-percent increase in soybean oil. The 55.1 million pounds of soybean oil shipped to Spain in November plus the 24.0 million pounds to Poland in October-November, both under Title I of Public Law 480, boosted this year's 2-months exports to 117.4 million pounds or one-fourth more than exports in the first 2 months of 1959-60. Three-fourths of the total moved out under Title I of Public Law 480.

Cottonseed oil exports jumped from 12.7 million pounds in October to 53.2 million in November--with 42.5 million pounds being exported to West Germany.

All cottonseed oil exports during October and November were dollar sales.

Exports of oilseed cakes and meals totaled 167,100 tons in October-November, almost one-fourth below last year's, with the sharpest decline in cottonseed cake and meal. Total November shipments, however, were up almost one-third from October, with the most significant increase in exports to the Netherlands.

SOYBEANS, EDIBLE OILS, AND OILSEED CAKES AND MEALS: U.S.
exports, year beginning October 1, 1958 and 1959;
October-November 1959 and 1960

Item	Unit	1958-59	1959-60 1/	October- November	
				1959-60 1/	1960-61 1/
Soybeans.....	Million bushels	110.1	141.6	32.5	36.7
Oil equivalent.....	Million pounds	1,208.6	1,554.8	356.9	403.1
Meal equivalent.....	1,000 short tons	2,608.7	3,292.3	755.7	862.7
Edible oils:					
Soybean.....	Million pounds	930.4	952.8	92.4	117.4
Cottonseed.....	do.	404.2	503.3	110.8	65.9
Total.....	do.	1,334.6	1,456.1	203.2	183.3
Cakes and meals:					
Soybean.....	1,000 short tons	512.2	652.3	134.0	117.1
Cottonseed.....	do.	27.3	140.2	57.8	26.4
Linseed.....	do.	31.2	62.6	22.4	21.2
Total 2/.....	do.	581.0	870.5	216.5	167.1

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes peanut cake and meal and small quantities of other cakes and meals.

Compiled from records of the Bureau of the Census.

MEXICAN SHIPMENTS OF
WINTER VEGETABLES

From December 1 to 15 the following vegetables crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona (in thousands of pounds with last year's shipments in parentheses): tomatoes, 22,615 (9,690); cucumbers, 12,731 (1,130); peppers, 2,056 (1,061); snap beans, 980 (1,411); peas, 49 (97); eggplant, 37 (107); and squash, 13 (120).

PERU EXPECTS SLIGHTLY
LARGER COTTON CROP

This season's cotton crop in Peru is estimated at 530,000 bales (500 pounds gross).

Although production this season is only slightly above last season's crop of 525,000 bales, it is 5 percent larger than average annual production of 505,000 bales in the past 5 seasons. Total area planted to cotton this season, at about 600,000 acres, was near the 1959-60 acreage of 605,000.

Tanguis, Acala, and Aspero are expected to total around 410,000 bales this season, compared with 409,000 in 1959-60. Production of Pima and Karnak, the extra-long staple types, is estimated at 120,000 bales in the current season, against 116,000 a year earlier.

Preliminary reports indicate that the 1961-62 crop of Pima and Karnak, most of which will be harvested in July and August 1961, may be somewhat smaller than the crop is this season. Factors contributing to the expected decline include a labor shortage, insect damage, and, in some areas, serious competition from other crops for irrigation water.

Peruvian exports of cotton are expected to be somewhat larger than the 417,000 bales shipped in 1959-60, when exports declined as a result of the reduction in supplies after a year of heavy shipments. However, exports during the first 3 months (August-October) of the current season, at 135,000 bales, are 8 percent below the 147,000 bales shipped during the same 1959 period.

Quantities shipped to major destinations during August-October 1960-61, with comparable 1959-60 figures in parentheses, were: Belgium, 27,000 bales (22,000); West Germany, 23,000 (22,000); United Kingdom, 19,000 (27,000); Argentina, 12,000 (328); Netherlands, 9,000 (9,000); France, 8,000 (13,000); Japan 6,000 (5,000); and Italy, 5,000 (8,000).

Following an uptrend that continued throughout 1959 and into January 1960, prices of Peruvian cotton on world import markets have been mixed. Extra-long staples have been holding steady, while Tanguis has declined over 5 cents a pound. On December 29, 1960, Peruvian Pima Type I and Tanguis Type 3 were quoted at 46.80 and 35.28 U. S. cents per pound, respectively, c.i.f. Liverpool. Comparable quotations on January 21, 1960, were 46.57 and 40.95 cents a pound.

Consumption of cotton in Peru this season is expected to be about 5 percent higher than the 75,000 bales used in 1959-60, as evidenced by some increase in mill activity. Imports of cotton goods are expected to decline as a result of higher import duties. Ending stocks on July 31, 1961, are likely to be somewhat smaller than beginning stocks of 250,000 bales held a year earlier, because of firm demand from both domestic and export trade.

CANADA MAY USE MORE EDIBLE OILS, BUT LITTLE CHANGE LIKELY IN SOYBEAN TRADE

Soybeans and meal: Canada is expected to take about as many U.S. soybeans in 1960-61 as last year, when such imports amounted to about 15 million bushels.

Crushings in 1959-60 totaled 17.3 million bushels, and little change is expected in the current marketing year.

Because the 1960-61 Canadian soybean crop is down by a half million bushels, Canadian exports of soybeans are not expected to reach the 2.5-million-bushel level of 1959-60.

Expanding production of hogs and poultry is expected to stimulate demand for oilseed meal.

Edible oils: Canadian consumption of edible vegetable oils in the 1960-61 marketing year will probably exceed that in 1959-60. The population increases and the heavier demand for margarine are contributing factors.

Demand for soybean oil during the 1960-61 marketing year may not reach the 1959-60 total of 195 million pounds because of increased competition from other oils. Palm oil, and possibly cottonseed oil, may supplant soybean oil if the present price relationships continue.

High-quality rapeseed oil is soon to be solvent-extracted, cold process, at Saskatoon, by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. If prices of rapeseed are competitive and there is sufficient demand for the solvent-extracted oils, domestic trade in this oil could become sizable in a few years.

SYRIA HAS LARGER COTTON CROP

Preliminary estimates place Syria's 1960-61 cotton crop at about 460,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is 3 percent above the 446,000 bales harvested last season, and 4 percent more than annual average production of 442,000 bales in the past 5 seasons.

The larger crop this season is attributed to relatively favorable growing conditions in irrigated areas, which amount to over 80 percent of total acreage. Acreage harvested this season will probably be around 525,000 acres, against 561,000 in 1959-60.

Exports of 37,000 bales of cotton from Syria during the first 3 months (August-October) of the current season were about one-third less than the 55,000 bales shipped in the corresponding months of 1959-60. Quantities exported to principal destinations during August-October 1960-61, with comparable 1959-60 figures in parentheses, were: India, 8,000 bales (0); France, 6,000 (16,000); West Germany, 5,000 (8,000); Czechoslovakia, 4,000 (0); Belgium, 2,000 (1,000); United Kingdom, 2,000 (1,000); and the Netherlands, 2,000 (253).

Communist countries received 6,000 bales, or 16 percent, of Syria's August-October 1960 exports, compared with 10,000 bales (18 percent) of exports during the same period of 1959. During the full 1959-60 season, 124,000 bales (32 percent) of Syria's total exports of 389,000 bales went to Communist countries, against 107,000 bales (30 percent) of total exports of 357,000 bales in the preceding season.

Cotton consumption in Syria this season may be 5 to 10 percent above the 60,000 bales used in 1959-60, because domestic offtake is strong and expansion is taking place in the local textile industry. Beginning cotton stocks on August 1, 1960, were estimated at 25,000 bales, compared with 45,000 a year earlier.

Prices of Syrian cotton have been stronger on world import markets in recent weeks. On December 29, 1960, Syrian SM 1-1/16 inches cotton was quoted at 30.67 U. S. cents per pound, c.i.f. Liverpool, while M 1-1/16 inches was 29.21. Comparable quotations on October 20 were 29.90 and 28.72 cents, respectively.

SOYBEAN SHIPMENTS THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL REACH POSTWAR HIGH

During the year ending September 30, 1960, shipments of soybeans northward through the Suez Canal reached a postwar record of 34.0 million bushels, up 3.8 million bushels from 1958-59 and almost double the 17.3 million bushels shipped in 1957-58. Soybeans shipped northward through the Suez are practically all of Chinese origin. Much of the increase in shipments during the past 2 years is due to Japan's break in trade relations with Communist China and the consequent movement of soybeans to Europe instead of Japan.

The larger volume of Chinese soybeans moving through the Canal lends further credence to the widely-held belief that the Chinese are able to isolate a sizable share of the Manchurian crop for export. The 1959 crop in China is estimated at 350 million bushels, down 10 million from 1958. The 1959 drop in production resulted primarily from the decline in the central producing regions, whereas the Manchurian crop in 1959 is believed to have increased from that of 1958.

In addition to the larger movement through the Suez Canal in 1959-60, shipments to the Soviet Union last year are believed to have increased. The 1959 Soviet sunflower seed crop--for consumption in the 1959-60 marketing year--was down from that of 1958 by roughly 2 million tons (equivalent to around 500,000 tons of oil), indicating that sizable imports were necessary to maintain consumption. In recent years, most of the Soviet imports of edible oils and oilseeds have been Chinese soybeans.

Presently, little evidence is available on which to base a forecast for the volume of Chinese soybeans that will move through the Suez Canal in 1960-61. Apparently, weather in 1960 was similar to that of 1959--drought in central China and a good crop year in Manchuria--and Chinese production in 1960 probably was about the same as in 1959.

However, it must be recognized at this date that unconfirmed reports persist of a somewhat smaller production with the assumption--which could certainly be erroneous--that decreased production means decreased exports.

Trade reports indicate that a relatively small tonnage of Chinese soybeans moved into Western Europe in October-December 1960. Although the apparently small shipments during October-December are in contrast to the heavy shipments in the first quarter of 1959-60, movements of Chinese soybeans through the Suez Canal historically have been small during the early months of the marketing year and usually have picked up sharply in either January or February.

SOYBEANS: Suez Canal, northbound shipments by months,
marketing years beginning October 1, 1957-59

Month	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
October.....	37	1,176	2,315
November.....	294	367	514
December.....	398	2,646	5,769
January.....	514	2,572	4,483
February.....	1,764	4,446	4,850
March.....	3,050	3,417	4,666
April.....	1,213	2,756	4,556
May.....	1,286	2,792	2,866
June.....	1,176	4,152	1,213
July.....	1,764	2,939	1,176
August.....	3,821	1,727	808
September.....	1,690	1,213	772
Total.....	17,307	30,203	33,988

Suez Canal Authority, Monthly Bulletin (Cairo, Egypt).

U.S. COTTON EXPORTS UP IN NOVEMBER

U.S. exports of cotton (all types) in November 1960 amounted to 721,000 running bales. This was an increase of 64 percent from October exports of 439,000 bales, and 11 percent above exports of 651,000 bales in November 1959.

Exports during the first 4 months (August-November) of the current season rose to 1,466,000 bales--up 7 percent from 1,371,000 bales in the corresponding months a year earlier. U.S. exports are expected to total about 6.5 million bales this season, compared with 7.2 million bales in 1959-60, and 2.8 million in 1958-59.

Comparable figures in 500-pound gross weight bales and destinations of the August-November 1960 exports will be published in Foreign Crops and Markets when available.

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Foreign Agriculture magazine. January 1961.

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